

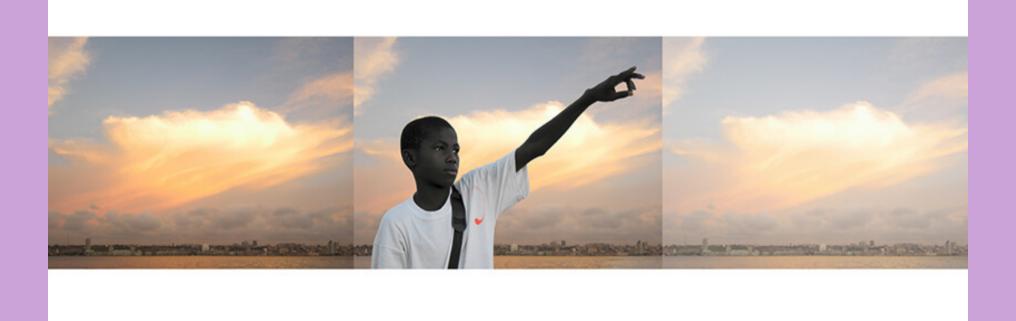
ALFREDO JAAR (Chilean, b. 1956)

Angel, 2007

C-print mounted on plexiglass | 24 3/4 x 81 in.

The Alfond Collection of Contemporary Art at Rollins College, Gift of Barbara '68 and Theodore '68 Alfond, 2013.34.33. © Alfredo Jaar.

Image courtesy of the artist and Galerie Lelong, New York.



Insisting on art-as-advocacy across the broad landscape of human rights, Alfredo Jaar actively supports the LGBTQ community publicly and politically.

With ties to Chile, Brazil, the United States, and the African continent, his works are infused with celebration and criticism of familiar motifs contextually absent in Western art.

Jaar's works center themes of freedom, the self, and an expanded understanding of iconography and inspiration. Angel is a tripled image-scape [tryptic], a continuous panoramic composition; the image is reproduced, adjacent, and in union with itself -- only in the center is a youthful person featured. The side panels are landscapes at sunrise or twilight, leaving room for the viewer's interpretation of time and space.

Settings and contexts carry meaning – in this work, we see a young African, left arm raised and extended, pointing above, to something beyond the frame – their eyes follow, seeing something we cannot.

Centuries of art history are conjured, prompting the urge to understand what is invisible.

Perhaps our angel is before our eyes: the central figure present, inviting a new and ancient sacred moment that calls to the past, the present, and the future.

Liam Otten says it best, "Today, Jaar is one of Latin America's foremost contemporary artists, known for installations and public interventions that investigate war, corruption, social justice, media desensitization and the global balance of power."